## City of St. Helens, Oregon

## **PROCLAMATION**

By Mayor Jennifer Massey

## Child Abuse Prevention Month April 2025

**WHEREAS**, more than 1,300 annual reports of child abuse or neglect were made on behalf of children in Columbia County in the most recent data; and

**WHEREAS**, 248 children in Columbia County received child abuse intervention services; and

WHEREAS, 84 of these children were from the City of St. Helens; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 176 children in Columbia County spend time in foster care every year; and

**WHEREAS**, child abuse prevention is a community responsibility and finding solutions depends on involvement among all people; and

**WHEREAS**, communities must make every effort to promote programs that benefit children and their families; and

**WHEREAS**, effective child abuse prevention programs succeed because of partnerships among agencies, schools, religious organizations, law enforcement agencies, and the business community; and

**WHEREAS**, trusted friends and active community members can help ensure families get the support they need by offering their time and resources, taking an active role in children's lives, and fostering a safe environment for young people to learn and grow.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Jennifer Massey, Mayor of the City of St. Helens, do hereby proclaim the month of April 2025 to be Child Abuse Prevention Month in St. Helens, Oregon, and urge all citizens to work together to help reduce child abuse and neglect significantly in years to come.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of St. Helens to be affixed at St. Helens City Hall on this 16<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2025.

Place	MAYOR:	
Gold	Jennifer Massey, Mayor	
Seal &		
Stamp	ATTEST:	
	Kathy Payne, City Recorder	